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New club aims to reduce mental illness stigma

By **Emily Abel**
WRITER

Anxiety, stress and depression are no strangers to a full-time college student. The pressures of higher education have the potential to be overwhelming and even harmful.

Three Utah State University seniors recognized this fact and have stepped up to help make a difference.

Ilana Cornfield, Trisha Johnson and Jessica Palmer have founded a branch of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, or NAMI, on campus. NAMI is a grassroots organization that works to raise awareness and provide support to people who suffer from mental illness. All social work majors, the founders learned about NAMI in a mental health class and knew it was something they wanted to bring to the university setting.

“We thought, ‘There needs to be some sort of club on campus for mental illness.’ Because it can really affect the rest of your adult life if you learn to take care of your mental health when you’re younger,” Palmer said.

Studies show that really acute mental illness strikes around the age of college students, Cornfield said. And one big reason is people are alone for the first time in their lives.

“They’re independent, and they don’t know what to do, and all of a sudden it all sinks on them like the perfect storm,” she said.

USUNAMI hopes to offer resources for students who find themselves in such sinking situations. Weekly student-led support groups are one resource they will provide. Three students are currently in training with a NAMI representative to conduct these sessions.

“This is something run by students for students,” Cornfield said. “As soon as you have students getting involved in the role of support groups, that helps reduce stigma. Spreading education to your fellow students definitely makes this a much easier thing to talk about.”

The main focus of NAMI for the year is reducing stigma, as evident in their campaign #nostigma. USU’s branch also plans to utilize

this powerful motto in their work as well.

“You can only reduce stigma by education and by talking about it, and that is what we are aiming to do,” Cornfield said.

In addition to shrinking stigma this year, USUNAMI has goals to expand their club and keep it available for years to come. As all three founders are seniors, they decided to appoint a younger club presidency in order to protect the future of their organization.

“People tried to start a club in the past, but it fizzled out after a year. Our main goal is to keep it going and continue to help students on campus,” Johnson said.

Junior Laurel Hanson has been appointed as president for the 2015 academic year. Hanson has a passion for this cause and is anxious to begin work.

“I look forward to getting out there and letting students know that we are here. And we’re available to everyone. Whether it’s themselves, their roommate, or just someone they know, we’re here,” Hanson said.



Mark Bell | PHOTOGRAPHER

Cofounder of NAMI holds a “no stigma” banner with members (left to right) Alex King, Clarice Ambler, Elana Corefeild, and Erin Daves. The groups Self Care event consisted of gratitude exercises, yoga, and progressive muscle relaxation.

raise further awareness of the new club, the founders organized NAMI week. On Wednesday, a self-care day including instruction on meditation and mindfulness, was held in the TSC. Thursday brought a unique speaker with an important message to campus.

“We are going to have someone come and talk about Crisis Intervention Training for police officers. They train police officers on how deal with people who are mentally ill. There has been a lot of

deaths because police officers don’t know what to do, and CIT has been known to reduce those deaths,” Cornfield said.

The CIT speaker will be in the Distance Education building, room 012 at 11 a.m. Questions regarding leading or joining a support group can be sent to namiutah-state@gmail.com. Further information can also be found on the Facebook page NAMIUSU.

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STUDENTS WALK OUT ON EXXON



David Matthew Stewart | PHOTOGRAPHER

Logan Christian and other protestors walk out of the Exxon-Mobil talk on Oct. 8 in the geology building at Utah State University.

By **George Labonty**
WRITER

During an Exxon-Mobil recruiting seminar in the Geology building on Thursday a group of students organized a walkout to demonstrate their dislike for the company.

The walkout was arranged by a number of environmental advocacy groups on campus, but most of the students involved were concerned outsiders. The students involved cite a number of reasons for their protest of the Exxon-Mobil recruiters, chief among them being that Exxon is one of the largest spon-

sors of lobbyists who push against climate science research and legislation, in addition to being the world’s largest producer of petroleum. Additionally, several students stated Exxon discriminates against LGBTQA workers.

"I thought it was what we could do to voice our opinions," said junior Diago Mendiola. "We don't have a lot of opportunities to voice our opinions, and this was a chance for us to express our grievances."

The event was part of a job and internship opportunity program in the geology depart-

ment and was a chance for students to learn about the benefits of working at a company like Exxon and what kind of path they could expect their careers to take if they were to get a job there.

The speakers, Shane Long and Eric Wickham, are both geologists at Exxon who have worked numerous job sites around the world in addition to speaking at recruiting seminars like the one on Thursday.

During the seminar, when the speakers paused to allow for questions, the activists asked questions about the company's sustainability and diversity practices and job security.

Several of the professors from the geology department asked that the students, for the sake of time, only ask questions related to the job opportunities, but the students didn't stop.

At the end of the presentation, the speakers had an open question round to clarify any of the points they made in their presentation. At that time, about half the audience stood up, declared that they would never work for a company like Exxon-Mobil and walked out of the room, leaving in each of their seats a piece of paper explaining their grievances against the oil giant.

"While these are important questions that need to be asked, this is not the right venue for it," the recruiters said, "and we neither know the answers to their questions, nor are we in a position to speak for Exxon-Mobil about these issues."

Members of the geology department ex-

pressed their embarrassment over the behavior of these audience members, with one student even apologizing on behalf of the school, saying that this behavior was not representative of the culture of Utah State.

Geology graduate student Amy, who declined to give her last name, has been involved with similar programs from other companies, and she stressed the importance of why job programs like this are important for students.

"Seminars like these turn into real opportunities for students to get jobs and make a career and learn about the environment of the job market," she said.

Many of the geological surveying trips she had participated in as a student had been sponsored by Exxon, she said.

Student activist senior Chris Tonan said it didn't matter if the recruiting seminar was the proper venue or not. These issues needed to be discussed even if it was inconvenient or awkward.

"There's not a correct time for civil disobedience," Tonan said. "As students, we should be active in who we let onto our school."

Exxon said concerned students can check out Exxon's website corporate.exxonmobil.com for specific information about the companies stance on the environment and its global operations, diversity and energy efficiency.

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TECH & MONEY



PHOTO BY | **Kylee Larsen**

OFFICERS VOTE TO SELL STUDENT TICKETS TO PUBLIC

By **Brenna Kelly**
COPY EDITOR

Utah State University Student Association officers voted Tuesday night to release 500 student tickets to the general public for this weekend’s football game.

The tickets, which will sell for \$38 apiece, were given to the Utah State Athletics Department. This is in addition to the 500 tickets released to the department last week when athletic director John Hartwell presented to the executive council on Oct. 6. So far, only 45 of those tickets have been sold.

“It’s not a whole lot, and I don’t anticipate them selling too many more, either,” said student involvement director Linda Zimmerman.

The Aggies will take on Boise State over fall break, when many students leave town. Hartwell said historically, student attendance during fall break and Thanksgiving games has

been low. As of Tuesday evening, 2,650 student tickets were distributed.

Although the executive council’s vote was unanimous, there was some concern at the initial meeting with Hartwell last week. Tickets in the student section are funded by student fees – students are required pay \$135.14 each semester for the privilege of attending all athletic events.

But this game is special. Boise State is ranked 21st in the nation and is in first place in the Mountain West conference.

“We’d rather have a full stadium cheering on our Aggies than see us with empty bleachers,” said athletics vice president Thomas Rogers. “If this wasn’t over fall break, I don’t think we’d be giving away tickets at all.”

Hartwell said athletics would never ask for more than 1,000 student tickets. Usually, 6,500 seats are reserved for students — most of what remains of the 25,513-seat stadium goes to the public. Rogers said the majority of public tickets are sold

out for this weekend.

“They’re pretty pricey tickets, for sure,” Rogers said. “I can’t say exactly dollar-for-dollar amount where it is going.”

If the athletics department sells the additional tickets now available to it, that would make a \$38,000 difference.

“The revenue that they really gain from using any of our seats, probably is slim,” Zimmerman said.

With the funds, Zimmerman said athletics may host some sort of event for students. She explained that athletics and USUSA have a close working relationship, and the entities work together to meet common goals.

“It’s tough to give away student tickets. It’s not something I enjoy,” Rogers said. “I’m hoping if we beat Boise our fans will start sprouting out of nowhere and will come to everything.”

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TWEETS OF THE WEEK





@brady_d25
Just saw a girl who looked like she was straight up crying in O-chem. I feel ya girl. #aggielife #aggiestribe



@ Devoboud
Saw a man almost drive off the road bc distracted by a girl jogging on the sidewalk. I almost waked off the sidewalk bc same #aggiestribe



@USUBangarang
We said it to start the season. We mean it now. We’re coming for you Boise. Next week is our super bowl. #FillTheMav #BeatBoiseState #USU



@_josiegrossie_
My backpack is full of seven days worth of stuff. Still lighter than my school backpack. #aggiestribe



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STUDENT LIFE

USU engineering students reach out to Hispanic community



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

By **Katherine Lambert**
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

Two friends, sophomore Jorge Espinoza and junior Daniel Gomez, didn't really know each other a year ago.

As two of the more than 2,600 students in the College of Engineering at Utah State University, the chances were slim that they would.

The chances slimmer still that they would become friends.

But Espinoza, a civil engineering major with a degree in law and constitutional studies and Gomez, a biological engineering major, now help each other trudge through 12 or more hours of homework a week. This is thanks to Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, or SHPE.

"With SHPE, the biggest thing for me is the fraternity with the members," Espinoza said. "That bond that you make with some of the members that you stick with and will be friends with for life probably."

And it's this kind of fraternity that is helping Hispanic engineering students succeed at USU.

The number of Hispanic engineers increased from 5.5 percent in 2002 to 7 percent in 2010, according to a report "Engineering by the Numbers" by the American Society of

Engineering Education.

"Right now is a really exciting time to be a Latino," Espinoza said. "Right now, I feel like we're on the verge. You've seen the elections, you know how immigration is really important. I feel like right now as a Latino it's really important to help out our community just because of those things."

But even with the increasing numbers, only 7.1 percent of the 2,305,215 engineers employed in 2011 were Hispanic, according to the "Disparities in STEM Employment by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin" census conducted by the American Community Survey Reports. Hispanic engineers were third with 75.2 percent of engineers classified as White and 11.3 percent as Asian, according to the census.

This is despite the Hispanic population being the largest minority group and composing of 17 percent of the U.S. population, according to the "Facts for Features: Hispanic Heritage Month 2014: Sept. 15-Oct. 15" report by the U.S. Census Bureau.

That's where SHPE comes in.

Throughout the year, SHPE members visit high schools, middle schools and sometimes elementary schools, giving presentations and encouraging students to seek after science, technology, engineering and math or STEM

related careers, Gomez said.

The club also hosts activities that help get the community interested in engineering.

"We also have sessions where we go in and taught to them about scholarships and how to apply for college and things like that, because it can be really daunting," Espinoza said. "Especially when your parents don't speak English or they don't know and you have to figure everything out on your own. Where the money is coming from. How to make payments, things like that so having the support from SHPE, it's important for a lot of these kids."

But the support does not end when students enter college. Graduated members of SHPE often help USU students, like mechanical engineering sophomore Adrian Meza, with their engineering pursuits.

"As a freshman, you don't think you're going to get internship opportunities that I've gotten," Meza said. "It's really opened doors for me, I was able to get an internship, a lot of our members were able to get internships through National Conference, through networking, through relationships within the club... It's just benefits after benefits."

This what Gomez called a "pipeline of knowledge." Students can always reach out to more experienced SHPE members for men-

tors while also being mentors themselves, he said.

And some SHPE members at USU are even known for their influence in this pipeline.

Former SHPE president, Jose Campos, will receive a SHPE Technical Achievement Recognition award, or STAR award, for his work bringing others into STEM related fields at the SHPE National Conference Nov. 11-18.

And there is more than awards to look forward to at the upcoming conference. Thousands of SHPE members will gather in Baltimore this year for the conference, and so will representatives from companies all over the world.

"It's amazing to see how important they think we are as a people," Espinoza said. "You see all these really amazing companies telling you to come work with them."

As members get a "taste" of what SHPE is about, they tend to stick with club, Meza said.

"We stress that we're like a family," he said. "And I think that we really are, because we all want to help each other out and we all want to see each other grow."

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ROOTS

from PAGE 1

got in touch with his roots at USU by joining and becoming the president of the Latino Student Union.

"When I was a freshman I was worried about not finding my people and culture so one of the first things I did was look into the Latino Student Union and that's something that has helped me embrace my culture on campus" said Alex Abutro, who is now the Programming President for USU. "I'm originally from Kimberly, Idaho. My parents are both from Mexico...since both

of my parents are from Mexico I normally classify myself as Mexican."

Growing up with this sort of heritage was also unique for Abutro.

"Spanish was my first tongue that I spoke," Abutro said. "I started learning English when I was four or five. I went to kindergarten in Mexico until my parents decided to move back to America."

The Hispanic culture never left Abutro though.

"I'm very proud of my culture and

all it embraces... I love the music. I love the language, and I love that there is such a big diversity within the Latino culture."

The enormity of the diversity in Hispanic culture is hard to understand for many people who have not been a part of the culture, though.

"I think a lot of times people have this vision, especially here, that Hispanic or Latino culture just focuses on Mexico but it doesn't," Abutro said. "There's Mexico, Central America, South America, Spain, it goes on and on. That's what I love about being Hispanic - there is such a big diversity in each country."

Abutro hopes that someday Latino Student Union will really get the chance to share this variety of cultures with USU with an event called Fiesta Americas, but it was canceled this year due to lack of funding.


For now, students will get the chance experience all cultures at USU with diversity week, which runs from October 25 to 30. Although nothing is set in stone, it will hopefully include international art, a cross-dressing bingo, a global dessert night and performances put on by all-student diversity clubs.

For Luis Armenta Hispanic Heritage month is just the beginning for

USU.

"Hispanic Heritage month is a great opportunity for Hispanic students to touch back with their roots," he said, "and I'm hoping will give USU a chance both now and in the future to learn more about the Hispanic Culture."

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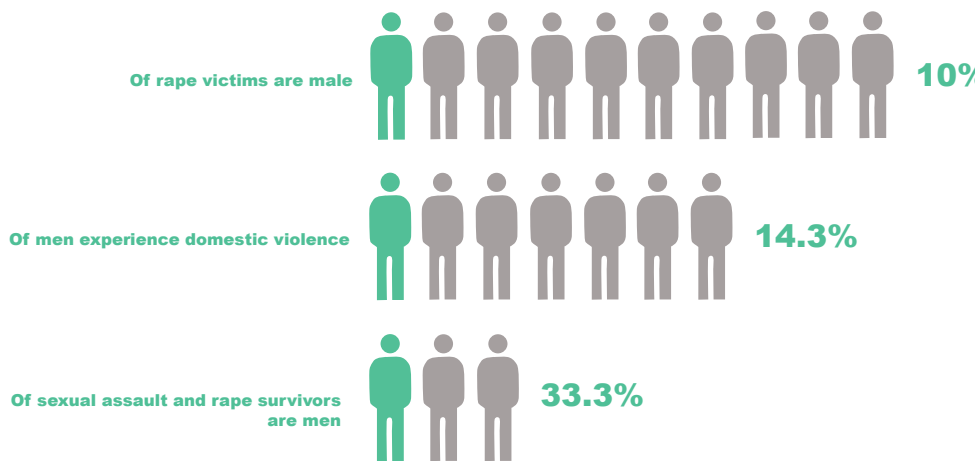
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SEXUAL ASSAULT: A PROBLEM FOR BOTH GENDERS

FACTS ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



GRAPHIC BY **Annie Hall**

By **Miranda Lorenc**
SENIOR WRITER

One in three women in Utah is a victim of sexual abuse, according to the Salt Lake City Office of Diversity and Human Rights.

Statistics on the sexual assault and rape of women are available all over the Internet on state or national government websites, help forums and community awareness pages.

Yet male survivors of sexual abuse are not a common topic in the media — even though one in seven men will experience domestic violence in their lifetime and about one-third of sexual assault and rape survivors are men — according to Utah State University’s Sexual Assault and Anti-Violence Information department, or SAAVI.

“It’s a very negative view from our society,” said Bret Nielson, a senior in social work and an intern at SAAVI. “Even if you look at some TV shows, they mock male rape. It’s

used as a punchline in a joke.”

Part of the reason for the difference between men and women stems from society’s definition on masculinity, he said, which often shows men as being tough, strong and always up for sex. That image makes it seem like men almost can’t get raped, and if they do, they are weak and are ridiculed for it.

“I remember when I was watching ‘Archer’ one time and this male was sexually assaulted, and people found it humorous,” Nielson said. “So really, when we do talk about it, it’s comedy. If we don’t talk about it, it doesn’t exist.”

Gender stereotypes have created barriers that prevent many men from reporting a sexual assault or choosing to seek help after a rape, he said. In many cases, those barriers even prevent victims from realizing that they have been assaulted.

“They’ve done studies where if you ask someone if they’ve been raped or sexually as-

saulted or if they have raped or sexually assaulted somebody, the number’s very low,” said Amanda Gibb, a graduate student in social work and an intern at SAAVI. “But if you ask about assaulted behaviors like if you’ve ever pressured anyone or held someone down to have sex with them, the number spikes. So that shows us that people don’t actually know what sexual assault really is.”

The definition of sexual assault is any sexual act without consent in the form of a sober, freely given “yes” statement that was not forced or manipulated, according to SAAVI.

Sexual assault is a broad term that can range from inappropriately touching another person’s intimate body parts to sexual intercourse, which can be defined as rape if there was vaginal, oral or anal penetration.

“It’s traumatizing. I mean, I’ve had to tell someone they’ve been sexually assaulted by someone before, and it was hard,” Nielson said. “And it was difficult because he had to take on that identity. I mean, if you are a survivor of sexual assault, that is part of your identity because we can’t change our experiences. But importantly those experiences don’t define us.”

On the other hand, Gibb said, that new identity can also be empowering and relieving as survivors are able to put a name to what happened to them.

“A lot of the time, they are already traumatized by their experience and they could be suffering from PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder] and having panic attacks and flashbacks, and be depressed and not okay with what happened,” she said. “But they may not know why.”

Receiving validation after being manipulated by a partner into something that didn’t feel comfortable or okay can provide a survivor with a basis to move forward and start to heal from, Nielson said.

“Sadly, in our culture, too often you hear

terms like ‘man up,’ and those are in this notion that, as a man, you should just walk it off or get over it,” said James Boyd, the development director at Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse, or CAPSA. “And unfortunately, it’s trauma. It’s trauma they’re experiencing and so to cope with that sometimes you need more help.”

Help can be found on campus or off — for both men and women — and all services are confidential.

CAPSA is a domestic violence and sexual assault recovery center and is one of two shelters in Utah that will shelter men fleeing from abuse. Its mission is to provide hope, help and healing for victims who come in seeking help.

The organization runs a 24-hour crisis hotline that can be reached at (435) 753-2500.

SAAVI is based on USU’s campus in the Health and Wellness Center, which is located behind the Maverick stadium. Their services are free for USU students and include therapy and help getting back on track with classes.

Utah recently adopted a public awareness campaign to “Start by Believing.” This idea is to turn the attention away from victim-blaming and needing proof of assault. Instead, the campaign focuses on believing that something happened and there is someone seeking help.

“If you feel like you’re in an unhealthy relationship that’s causing you trauma, contact us,” Boyd said. “We don’t judge. All of our services are free and are all confidential. So contact us, and we’ll help you achieve the goals you’re trying to get.”

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Intermountain Herbarium grows online



Annie Hall | PHOTOGRAPHER

By **Miranda Lorenc**
SENIOR WRITER

Tucked away in the belly of central campus is Utah State University’s best kept botany secret, the Intermountain Herbarium.

Located under the Junction, the herbarium serves as a resource on plants not only for students, but for the general public.

“If you’re interested in plants and mushrooms, this is a good resource, come explore,” said Micheal Piep, the assistant curator.

The herbarium began in 1931 by Bassett Maguire, an American botanist, and was formed as a strong research facility for the state of Utah during a time when the nearest available plant collections were small or far away.

Now, the herbarium is the largest publicly owned herbarium in the intermountain region, hosting a collection of approximately 280,000 specimens from all over the world. The numbers increase every year as more specimens come in, assistant curator Piep said.

“I’ve been here over 30 years and the reputation of the Intermountain Herbarium has al-

ways been excellent,” said Richard Mueller, associate dean of the College of Science. “It’s a very important collection of plants in this region that really is kind of irreplaceable.”

The collection is currently archived online at www.intermountainbiota.org and run by the Southwest Environment Information Network or SEINet based in Arizona.

Other colleges and research facilities around the intermountain region are also pooling their data online through SEINet to create a richer, accessible resource, Piep said.

About 51 percent of the herbarium’s collection is archived already, he said. Of those specimens, 31 percent have a geo-referencing points and about 30 percent are imaged and available online.

“We’ve got some fairly old specimens,” Piep said. “Several from the 1800s, the oldest specimen that I’m aware of here in the herbarium was collected in Europe in the late 1700s, if I remember correctly.”

In addition to the research collections, the herbarium also hosts a fully cataloged reference library with 3,000-4,000 titles for stu-

dents to study, as well as a workshop area supplied with microscopes and tools for research.

Students also have the option to check out or rent plant presses for drying specimens or colored picture slides for presentations or essays.

“We’re more than happy to set up the general public, visiting researchers, grad students, undergrads, whatever,” Piep said.

The herbarium is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the school year, and starting this semester, the staff holds an open hour every Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. to answer questions or give tours to visitors.

Due to its location, the herbarium is out of sight to many students and not is not very well known.

“I didn’t even notice it until my second year; my first year I was upstairs eating,” said Kolton Kendell, a sophomore in pre-physical therapy, “I don’t know, second year comes around and you just kind of explore a little bit more, and that’s when I noticed it.”

It was the herbarium’s colorful, eye-catching specimens that piqued his interest enough to

look inside a few times, he said.

“There’s just a lot of really cool things in the windows that you can see, and it looks kinda whimsical? That’s a cool word for it. It just looks really different,” said Rebecca Ashby, an undeclared freshman.

Display cases filled with hand crafted plant and mushroom models fill the entrance area to draw the attention of passersby. During the Halloween and Christmas seasons the staff likes to decorate the herbarium for fun, Piep said.

Kendall considers the herbarium as one of the many lesser known places on campus with nice facilities.

“If you have an hour in between classes, just kind of mill around the building that you’re in,” Kendall said. “Odds are you haven’t checked it out cause you’re just in class and you wanna get out and hang with your friends, but we have really nice facilities so check it out. Explore, you’re here to learn.”

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Support is out there: Domestic Violence Awareness Month comes to USU



Bradley Keyes | PHOTOGRAPHER

Bret Nielson (BSWA, SAAVI intern) explains to a crowd of students the reality and commonality of domestic violence and how it can be stopped.

By **Ashley Stilson**
WRITER

A scream followed by a gong resounded through the Sunburst Lounge of the Taggart Student Center on Tuesday, directing attention to a display of hanging painted t-shirts. The t-shirts reveal countless stories of interpersonal violence survivors, each expressing their hurt through colors, words and images.

Each time the gong resonated — every nine seconds — symbolized how often someone in the United States is a victim of abuse.

But the painted t-shirts are not the only t-shirts that draw attention in the lounge. Grey t-shirts with the words “Stop the violence, Break the silence” are worn by students and staff ready to help anyone who has suffered from abuse.

“Keep those people close to you who are willing to help you. Keep trying and do your best. There are resources out there, there are people that can help you, and eventually you can have a better life,” said Stephanie Bagnell, the program coordinator and adviser at the Center for Women and Gender.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month, and every year, Utah State University

presents the Clothesline Project, a visual display of shirts designed by survivors of interpersonal violence.

This year, the Center for Women and Gender teamed with the Sexual Assault and Anti-Violence Information (SAAVI) office to raise awareness of the impact of violence on campus.

“What we want people to know is that we care about them,” said Bret Nielson, an undergraduate social intern at SAAVI. “We’re here to help. We’re not going to judge them. Come talk to us. Everything’s free, it’s confidential, just come talk to us.”

The SAAVI office offers confidential and free counseling, support and information for anyone at USU who is a survivor of interpersonal violence. This includes domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, rape, hazing and hate crimes.

“It’s when you start to fear instead of feel love and appreciated, that’s the first sign of something might not be ok in this relationship,” said Teisha Greer, an undergraduate social intern for SAAVI. “Nobody should be afraid to go home to their loved ones, because

love shouldn’t hurt.”

Statistics regarding sexual offenses rose in 2014, according to the USU Department of Public Safety annual report. In 2014 the total number of reported sexual offenses was 14. The total in 2012 was six, and the total in 2013 was three reported offenses.

Even with the sharp increase in 2014, Nielson said the most under reported crime is domestic violence and sexual assault.

Harmony Davis, the volunteer coordinator for Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse (CAPSA) explained an important way to help victims who report about their abuse.

“The important thing I think is supporting them,” she said. “If they want to go back, you have to support them. And sometimes that’s hard.”

CAPSA and SAAVI work hand in hand to help abuse victims. CAPSA works more with community members in Cache Valley, while Greer said SAAVI works with students on campus.

“You can just listen and that’s the biggest thing, to have a safe place to go and someone to listen to you,” said SAAVI volunteer Krissy

Bellusci, a psychology major.

To raise awareness of CAPSA and SAAVI resources on campus, white and purple signs have been placed around campus drawing awareness to nationwide statistics about all types of interpersonal violence. One of the statistics reads that 1 in 4 women experience domestic violence and 1 in 7 men.

Though women suffer more violence than men, Kurt Kowal, a SAAVI intern majoring in interdisciplinary studies, said hyper-masculinity is a hard issue for men to work with when suffering from abuse.

“It’s pretty significant, trying to break down that barrier,” he said.

Students who want to volunteer and raise awareness for all types of interpersonal violence can go online to the SAAVI homepage and help with events like the Red Zone or the Clothesline Project.

“People should be happy. They should be with someone who makes them happy. Whatever works for them, and that’s what we want to do,” said Nielsen.

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Founding father’s story gets a modern retelling

By **Whitney Howard**
WRITER

“I’m obsessed with a hip hop musical about Alexander Hamilton” isn’t something I ever thought I would say.

The Broadway show in question, “Hamilton,” is already generating tons of buzz despite debuting only two months ago. I myself have listened to nothing but the soundtrack for the past week.

A trip to New York is pricey — although I have seriously considered going without groceries to get tickets — but the original Broadway cast recording has recently been released for purchase on iTunes and streaming on Spotify.

“Hamilton” is the brain child of actor, writer, composer and my new favorite person, Lin-Manuel Miranda. It all started when he picked up a copy of “Alexander Hamilton,” an exhaustive biography by Ron Chernow, on a trip.

While combining early American history with hip-hop may seem like a stretch, for Miranda, it was natural.

“That is part and parcel with the hip-hop narrative: Writing your way out of your circumstances, writing the future you want to see for

yourself. This is a guy who wrote at 14, ‘I wish there was a war.’ It doesn’t get more hip-hop than that,” Miranda said in the New York Times.

At first, I was curious about the approach. What kept me listening was ear worm after ear worm of music and an engaging story.

Hamilton himself is portrayed as an ambitious man whose thirst for prestige and respect is unquenchable. He takes every opportunity — for good or ill — to better his position.

This show is by no means Hamilton and the Hamiltonettes. The supporting characters are as intriguing as Hamilton himself. This includes a sassy and stubborn Jefferson, a sweet and resilient Eliza Schuyler Hamilton and a scorned but painstakingly human Aaron Burr, who ultimately shoots Hamilton in a duel.

The music isn’t the only creative choice. Almost every member of the cast is a person of color (with the exception of Jonathan Groff, also known as Kristoff in “Frozen,” who plays King George). Miranda, a Puerto Rican, stars as Hamilton himself.

Miranda made a conscious choice to tell Hamilton’s sto-

ry with the diversity and inclusiveness of modern America.

“This is a story about America then, told by America now,” Miranda said in an interview with the Atlantic, “and we want to eliminate any distance between a contemporary audience and this story.”

Growing up, Hamilton did not get nearly as much recognition in history classes as other founding fathers, such as Washington and Jefferson. In the song “History Has Its Eyes On You,” George Washington’s character fore-shadows this.

“You have no control who lives, who dies, who tells your story,” Christopher Jackson, who plays Washington, sings.

This is a touching reprise in the finale — there are a lot of reprises — when Hamilton’s wife works for the rest of her life to ensure that her husband’s legacy lives on. It’s also the point in the show where I cry buckets of tears.

Whether you like theater, hip hop and R&B, history or an unconventional merging of the three, listen to “Hamilton.” You won’t be disappointed.

—whitney.bowward@aggiemail.usu.edu

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BUCKING THE TREND

By **Tristan Paradise**
WRITER

Utah State football will play host to the familiar conference foe in the Boise State

Broncos this weekend, and the stakes are high. The Mountain West lead, as well as national recognition for the defeat of a ranked team are on the line. The game comes at a good time for the Aggies who seem to be firing on all cylinders heading into the clash.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARLENE WENDELS FROM THE COLLEGIAN
DEVANTE MAYS RUNS the ball through Fresno State's defence on Saturday in Fresno.

Aggies look for first win over Broncos since 1997

From the running game to the special teams, Utah State's confidence is the highest it has been this season after humiliating Fresno State in a 56-14 victory. "Overall, we played really well, which was nice to see," said junior center Austin Stephens. "We've got some momentum heading into the Boise State game. It's another great team, and we've got to be prepared to play. But like in every game, there are things to fix and go back to the drawing board on." Aggie head coach Matt Wells noted the importance of getting some players rested in preparation for Boise State. "It was a big boost for us and a great win. We were able to play a lot of guys in the fourth quarter — in fact, almost the entire fourth quarter," Wells said. "It was good to be able to play those guys, as well as rest a lot of the starters. That was good, especially heading into a short week." The Broncos won't be short on confidence themselves after defeating Colorado State 41-10 on Saturday and only

carrying one loss, at the hands of BYU in Provo. "We understand the opponent that we're facing, and we're not taking it lightly," said defensive end Ricky Ali'ifua. "We're also not changing our mindset as far as saying we have to practice extra hard or we have to play extra hard. That's something that's already expected of us." Wells said it's going to come down to the fundamentals and the basics. He wants the team technically sound. "That's the most important thing when you're playing a team like Boise State," Wells said. Although there seems to be a lot of extra incentives to win this game, the Aggies aren't letting the thought of revenge enter their minds. "I don't know if revenge is the right word because for me personally," Ali'ifua said. "I've noticed how sometimes that can cloud your responsibilities as far as what you're supposed to do and sometimes drain you mentally." Sophomore quarterback Kent Myers has done a near perfect job in at quarterback for the Aggies. Myers carries

a 7-1 record as starting quarterback, the lone loss at the hands of the Broncos in a similarly big game in Boise last year. "It's another talented version of the Bronco football program," Wells said. "This year is no different. When you see a true freshman quarterback and see some of the things Rypien does, he's really good. He's the second true freshman quarterback we've seen, and he can make all the throws." While the Broncos have a fresh-faced roster, Stephens spoke of how the Aggies have improved since last year as well. "We were young last year," Stephens said. "We know what last year's game was like, but this year we're a new team. We have a new identity. We're not the same team as last year. We've got to prepare this week and put on our hard hats and go to work out there. We'll be ready to give them our best shot."

—tparadise@aggiemail.usu.edu

A PITCHER'S DUEL

By **Kenna Cook**
WRITER

After setting two records during just her sophomore year, Noelle Johnson's college softball career is coming to an end. Johnson broke the single season strike-out record as well as the single game strike-out record in 2014. In addition to those accolades, Johnson was a first-team Mountain West selection and on the All-Academic team, and just a handful of weeks ago she was inducted in to the Hall of Fame in the athletics building. "That was one of my goals," Johnson said. "I wanted to be in the Hall of Fame or in the record books one way or another. So I know that I've done what I could to do that, and I still have a year left to do even more with it." Aggie softball's new pitching coach, Windy Thees, said that Johnson is a competitor and a force on the mound.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDIA RELATIONS

"That's exactly what you want out of a pitcher," Thees said. "Someone who comes in and gets after it. Sometimes she wants it so bad that her adrenaline takes over and she'll miss her spot just because she's going after it so hard." Junior Paxton Provost who has played behind Johnson

for three years says that Johnson took her in right away and she has total confidence in her. "Noelle is definitely one of the ones," Provost said. "When she's up there, you just know." Johnson's spot is going to be a tough one to fill, but Provost is confident that they have other pitchers who will be ready to step up and fill it. "It's just going to be different not having her around," Provost said. "I love Noey." Johnson is also having a hard time accepting that this

is her last season playing as an Aggie. "It's difficult knowing that these are the last of a lot of things for me," Johnson said. Johnson's start with USU softball was a little rocky. Coming in her freshman year from Santee, CA, she didn't know what to expect.

She didn't know what conference the team stood in, how much she was going to pitch or what she was going to be able to contribute to the team. Leading in to her sophomore year, Utah State changed softball coaches. "I kind of felt like I was a

freshman all over again," Johnson said. Johnson said that after meeting head coach Steve Johnson, she was instantly

see **PITCHERS** page 8

FANTASY FIRE: Week 6 start ‘em, sit ‘em



START-EM: JAMES JONES

It’s about time that I got to show some love to someone wearing the glorious green and gold. Jones has been an absolute stud this year, averaging 13 fantasy points per game in traditional ESPN leagues.

However, up to this point, I have never been brave enough to start him. Why? Because the veteran out of San Jose State is only averaging 3.8 receptions per game. Surely, a wide receiver that only gets three touches a game can’t make a relevant fantasy impact right? Wrong. Jones has established himself as a vital part of a potent Packers offense. Despite low targets, Jones is averaging a touchdown per game and has developed a special trust with Aaron Rodgers. With Jordy Nelson out for the season, Rodgers has gone to Jones again and again with the game on the line.

Regardless of the matchup, James Jones is a must-start moving forward as long as Aaron Rodgers is on the field.

Other start-ems: Carson Palmer, Andy Dal-

ton, Mark Ingram, T.J. Yeldon, Brandon Marshall, Calvin Johnson, Delanie Walker, Martellus Bennett

SIT-EM: CAM NEWTON

I understand that the Panthers are undefeated. I also understand that Cam Newton has carried the Caroline offense on the way to a 4-0 start.

However, I don’t like this matchup one bit. The Seahawks are off to a slow 2-3 start this season and are headed home after a tough overtime loss to the Bengals. Seattle is never an easy place to play, but I have a feeling it will be especially tough for the Panthers this week.

Seattle will be hungry for a home win, and the Legion of Boom will be fixing to eat well. Newton has also traditionally played badly against Seattle, averaging 146 yards and one touchdown in three career meetings with them. I would be very surprised if the Panthers come out of Seattle with a 5-0 record.

If you have any kind of alternative option, take it, and leave Cam the Man riding the pine this week.

Other Sit-ems: Phillip Rivers, Eli Manning, Alfred Morris, Jonathan Stewart, Jordan Mathews, Brandin Cooks, Kyle Rudolph, Charles Clay

PICK-UP: CHARCANDRICK WEST

Looking for a last second replacement player? Charcandrick — yes, that’s his real name — West is your guy.

Owned in only 0.3 percent of leagues at the beginning of this week, chances are he’s available. West will get the first shot of filling in for the injured Jamal Charles this week in the run-heavy Chiefs offense. Charles has been the heart and soul, not to mention nearly all



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

GREEN BAY PACKERS’ JAMES JONES (89) STIFF-ARMS Detroit Lions cornerback Chris Houston (23) on a one-yard reception during the first quarter on Sunday, October 6, 2013, at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Green Bay Packers beat the Detroit Lions, 22-9.

offensive output, for the Chiefs. There is a huge void where number 25 used to be, and West will look to fill that void this week against the Vikings.

West will most undoubtedly share carries with Kniles Davis, but it looks like West will earn the majority of the workload. Regardless, in an offense that has the motto of “run first, pass never,” West can’t be ignored and should be owned in all leagues.

Other Pick-ups: Josh McCown, Matt Cas-

sel, Kniles Davis, Charles Sims, Allen Hurns, Willie Snead, Julius Thomas

— Colby May is a senior majoring in business administration. He is an avid Packers fan and a successful fantasy football manager. Some people have called him the Vincent Van Gogh of fantasy sports. You can reach him at colbymay@aggie-mail.usu.edu or on twitter at @may_colby7.

PITCHERS

from PAGE 7



Kyle Todecheene | PHOTOGRAPHER

KATIE SHCROEDER PITCHES against Idaho State Saturday in Logan. The Aggies lost 4-0 and ended their fall season.

reassured. Softball went from 9th place to being tied for 5th last year.

“Now this year with what we have with the players coming in,” Noelle Johnson said. “I just feel like this year is going to be another huge year for us.”

This may be Johnson’s last season pitching for the Aggies, but she’s not completely done with softball just yet. Johnson plans on staying next year to earn her Master’s Degree and being the voluntary student assistant coach at Utah State.

“I came in just knowing that I wanted to make a difference,” Johnson said. “No matter what I did, on the field or off the field, I just wanted to make a difference at Utah State.”

Freshman pitcher Katie Schroeder says that her role model on the team is Noelle Johnson. Schroeder says that she enjoys watching Noelle Johnson, and it inspires her to be like her by the time she is a senior.

Schroeder’s main goal is to be an impact player. When it comes to setting records as Noelle Johnson did, Schroeder said that she isn’t thinking that far ahead.

“I’m thinking, as we say, the next 200 feet,” Schroeder said. “The next day at practice, one pitch at a time.”

Thees said that Schroeder is the most positive pitcher they have.

“She likes to make herself better,” Thees said. “She comes out with a learning attitude, and she wants to learn how to make every pitch a little bit better.”

Schroeder left her high school in her hometown of Camas, Washington with 115 strike-outs. Unlike

Johnson, Schroeder doesn’t plan on continuing with softball unless something too good to pass up comes along.

“I really want to be a doctor,” said Schroeder. “After these four years I’ll probably be done playing softball, but I would be happy just going to med school and starting a life.”

Noelle Johnson said that she has done what she could, and this is her year to leave it all on the field. She’ll let somebody else come in and pick up where she is leaves off.

Schroeder is preparing to fill Johnson’s shoes as best as she can.

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@kennaacook



Serving the Aggie community at our Logan Health Center.

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OPINION

Easy

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National Security and Climate Change



As Americans we honor our troops and respect our military. Thousands of lives have been lost to protect this great country and keep it free. And yet, why do we ignore their warning about climate change? Over the years, every branch of the military has said that climate change is a major issue America must address. Many studies are coming out saying as climate change continues, more countries around the world will become politically unstable.

As governments around the world become less stable, organizations like ISIS find footholds and create international turmoil. Severe droughts, sea level rise and food scarcity will be catalysts for both mass migrations and even war. Climate change has been considered by some a threat multiplier, in that it will compound major issues in the world today. It is considered a direct cause of instability in some regions of the world. Imagine a world without the Mississippi River. Americans would have some serious problems to deal with.

The Department of Defense, or DoD, had this to say: "Climate change will affect the DoD's ability to defend the nation and poses immediate risks to U.S. national security. The DoD does not want to just kick the can down the road and let future generations deal with it. They want to take immediate actions to help the U.S. military be ready. Many top military advisors say that whether you believe in the evidence of climate change or not, something must be done and it needs

to be now. As national security risks continue to increase, the U.S. must work with its allies to strengthen global resilience to climate disruption.

Our military is smart and wise when it comes to evaluating risks, and they have been preparing their bases to withstand the coming uncertainty. Already, the Pentagon is assessing the vulnerability to climate change of its 7,000 bases, installations and facilities. Over 30 U.S. bases are threatened by a rise in sea level.

The deputy undersecretary of defense for the environment said, "Our dependence on fuel adds significant cost and puts US soldiers and contractors at risk." He added, "Energy can be a matter of life and death and we have seen dramatically in Iraq and Afghanistan the cost of heavy reliance on fossil fuels."

The U.S. military is considered one of the most conservative organizations in the world, and yet most Americans don't want to listen. The military is not waiting around for ideologies or politics to line up on the issue. Many are listening and acting on the warning being given. For example, the U.S. Air Force has built up America's biggest solar battery array in Nevada and is testing jet fighter engines on biofuels. The Marine Corps may soon start drilling its own wells to eliminate the need to truck in bottled water. This is in response to recommendations from a task forces to reduce energy use in a war zones. By following in their footsteps, Americans can do their part to fight climate change.

We must now open up our ears and listen to our military leaders! Be part of the solution and not the problem.

If you want to make a difference, learn your ecological footprint.

—Darren is a super senior majoring in Environmental Studies. He wishes one day to work for large businesses as their sustainability consultant. Darren strives every day to improve the status quo. Shoot him an email if you want to talk at darren.bingham@aggiemail.usu.edu or on Twitter @darrenbusu.

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GET CAUGHT READING



Name: Rhett Peterson
Year: Sophomore
Major: Agriculture Dairy and Veterinarian Science Major (ADVS)
From: Richfield Utah.

Laugh it up people



At best, I can expect a raised eyebrow and a condescending "oh really," when I tell someone I'm a journalism student.

No, I'm actually a duck. Yes, really, I'm a journalism student.

At worst, I can expect flat out laughter and something along the lines of the following: "Journalism, isn't that a dying field?" "There's still jobs in that?" "How are you going to make a living?" I know I picked the career field that doesn't make much money. That doesn't bother me.

I've accepted that even though some people can't seem to find the shift button to capitalize "I" or know the difference between "your" and "you're," I'll be called out on social media for any and all mistakes I make. That doesn't bother me.

I know that my work, the stories I spend hours on, often end up in the trash. That doesn't bother me. None of this bothers me, because I know what journalists are for.

What bothers me is other people don't remember what journalists are for. We are the watchdogs. We are the truth-seekers.

We ask the uncomfortable questions no one else will. We are spit on, threatened, beaten, imprisoned and even killed for you. To let

you know what's happening, because it's your right to know. Because we want you to have the power of knowledge.

And all I hear is, "So you're a liberal?"

... Really?

Honestly, I think if this is the attitude of America, we deserve Brian Williams.

We deserve reporters that give fame to college shooters.

We deserve news organizations that won't report stories because it hurts the image of their advertisers.

I'd like to say we deserve better, but do we? Do we when it's a game to poke fun at journalists?

Be angry. Demand better. Feel something other than amusement, people, because this isn't funny. Journalism isn't supposed to be funny; it's supposed to be true.

I'm not saying this so you'll pick up a newspaper or flip through a news app.

I'm saying this so you'll remember. Remember the days when people wouldn't leave for work in the morning without reading the news. Remember the days when people NEEDED to know what was happening around them. Remember what it felt like to be informed. Remember why the news is here in the first place because I guarantee you it wasn't so Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert could launch their comedy shows.

We are here for you. You are the audience, we are the writers. It's not our stories we are reporting, it's yours.

When you're laughing at journalists, you're laughing at yourselves.

—Katie Lambert is a senior in print journalism. She enjoys running outside, reading and occasionally eating her weight in Swedish Fish. Follow her @klamb92 or email her at katie.l.lambert26@gmail.com.

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LDS Church

Free, 6:00 pm

CORN MAZE ON THE FARM

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\$5-\$12, All Day

CLOTHESLINE PROJECT

TSC Lounges

Free, All Day

FRIDAY OCT 16

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

American West Heritage Center

\$8-\$9, 10:00 am

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOUR

Thatcher-Young Mansion

\$9, 7:00 pm

HAUNTED HOLLOW

American West Heritage Center

\$9-\$12, 7:30 pm

CORN MAZE ON THE FARM

American West Heritage Center

\$5-\$12, All Day

SATURDAY OCT 17

USU WILDLIFE SOCIETY FUND-RAISER: BENEFICIAL MONEY SHOOT

Cache Valley Gun Range

\$2-\$4. Contact USU Wildlife Society at usuwild@usu.edu for more information, 9:00 am

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

American West Heritage Center

\$8-\$9

WITCHES WALK FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

American West Heritage Center

\$8-\$9, 12:00 pm

ONCE UPON A MURDER (MURDER MYSTERY EVENT AND DINNER)

Riverwoods Conference Center

\$25, 6:00 pm

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOUR

Thatcher-Young Mansion

\$9, 7:00 pm

HAUNTED HOLLOW

American West Heritage Center

\$9-\$12, 7:30 pm

MAOZIL BRASS: YES YES YES

Ellen Eccles Theater-Cache Valley Center for the Arts

\$17-\$27, 7:30 pm

CORN MAZE ON THE FARM

American West Heritage Center

\$5-\$12, All Day

SUNDAY OCT 11

SOCIAL BIKE RIDE

Caffe Ibis

\$5, 8:30 am

.. WIN ..

DOMINOS

PIZZA

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ENDS OCTOBER 31

The logo for Aggie Radio, featuring a stylized radio tower with signal waves and the word "AGGIE" on a banner, with "RADIO" underneath.

The logo for The Utah Statesman, featuring a large stylized "A" with "THE UTAH STATESMAN" written below it.